

February 23, 2007

Co-Chairs Senator MaryAnn Handley and Representative Peggy Sayers
Public Health Committee
Room 3000, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Re: Support of Funding for SB 1226: An Act Establishing a Fall Prevention Program

Dear Senator Handley, Representative Sayers and members of the Public Health Committee

My name is Diana Krusell and I am the nurse at the Plainville Senior Center. Our center was one of the first centers to offer the Fall Risk Assessments under the Yale University's Step by Step program. They were well received and the participants found them very informative and helpful.

The time I spent with each person allowed me to evaluate them for risk factors of having a fall and then educate them in what areas they could modify to reduce their risk. Some had already had a fall. Most knew someone who had fallen and all were afraid of having a fall and the possible hospitalization and long term decline common after falling.

These programs have been well received by the community and continue in helping older adults prevent falls and any injuries that may occur from a fall. It is my wish that programs which provide education on fall prevention continue to have the support they need to reach out to all areas of the State of Connecticut. By passing the above mentioned bill, fall prevention will continue to decrease health care costs and disabilities in Connecticut's older population

Thank you very much for your consideration of this important bill. Please contact me at 860-667-8244 or e-mail at dkrusell@sbcglobal.net, if you have any questions regarding fall prevention programs.

Again, I strongly support funding of SB1226.

Sincerely,

Diana Krusell RN
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